THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) The S.M. Service enables the members of public to find out the current status of their stolen vehicles and issuance of passports. The service has evoked an encouraging response from the public.

(b) and (c) As "police" and "law and order" are State subjects, it is essentially for the State Governments concerned to take appropriate decision in the matter.

Paramilitary personnel joining militant organisations

3253. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of cases involving paramilitary personnel deserting their force and joining militants have come to notice;

(b) if so, the number of such cases detected and involved persons arrested during the last one year; and

(c) the other details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) In CRPF, Constable Mohd. Ashraf Shah while overstaying on his leave *w.e.f.* 26.10.2001, was arrested by Rastriya Rifles on 24.12.2001 with a wireless set, reportedly given to him by the militants. He was handed over to the Police on 28.12.2001. Two other CRPF Constables Azhar Hussain Khan and Khurshid Ganai, were dismissed from service *w.e.f. 2*.1.2002 for desertion of the Force. Subsequently, Khurshid Ahmad Ganai reported to have been killed in an encounter with the Security Forces and there are inputs that Azhar Hussain Khan has links with the militants.

Hike in the centre's contribution for modernisation of police in States

3254. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Centre has hiked its contribution for police modernization in the States;

(b) if so, what was the amount of contribution of the Centre during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether States have utilized this amount; and